

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, IR, UK

SUBJECT: REPORTED BRITISH-IRANIAN COMMERCIAL
VENTURES

REF: A. STATE 242869

B. TEHRAN 9452

1. REFTEL B REPORTED INFORMATION EMBASSY WAS ABLE TO
DEVELOP CONCERNING BRITISH ARMS DEALS IN IRAN.
FOLLOWING INFORMATION WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DEVELOP
PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 6 OF REFTEL B:

A. MASSEY FERGUSON TRACTOR FACTORY -- AGREEMENT ON
THE MASSEY FERGUSON-IDRO JOINT VENTURE WAS REACHED ABOUT
EIGHTEEN MONTHS AGO. AT PEAK PRODUCTION THE FACTORY
WOULD PRODUCE APPROXIMATELY 20,000 TRACTORS ANNUALLY
WITH A RISING PERCENTAGE OF DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED
COMPONENTS. THE FACTORY IS LOCATED IN TABRIZ AND THE
BULK OF THE WORK TO DATE HAS BEEN IN REHABILITATING AN
EXISTING SITE AND IMPORTING MACHINERY. THERE IS NO
FIRM DATE AS YET FOR THE INAUGURATION OF THE ASSEMBLY
LINE.

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B. ELECTRICAL SPARE PARTS FACTORY -- AGREEMENT IN

PRINCIPLE HAS BEEN REACHED BETWEEN LUCAS AND THE LOCAL
AGENT FOR CATERPILLAR FOR A JOINT VENTURE FOR THE MANU-
FACTURE OF ELECTRICAL SPARE PARTS IN GHAZVIN. PRODUCTION
IS SEVERAL MONTHS AWAY AT LEAST.

C. ELECTRIFICATION OF IRANIAN
RAILWAY SYSTEM-- NO FIRM DECISION HAS BEEN REACHED
BETWEEN IRAN AND UK GENERAL ELECTRIC CONCERNING THE
LATTER'S PARTICIPATION IN THE ELECTRIFICATION OF THE
IRANIAN RAILWAY SYSTEM. DISCUSSIONS ARE CONTINUING.
HELMS

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